



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Masumi Sakai  
Serial No.: 09/779,125  
Filed: February 7, 2001  
For: FURNACE-TYPE  
ATOMIC ABSORPTION  
SPECTROPHOTOMETER  
Group Art Unit: 2872  
Examiner: A.C. Lavarias  
Attorney Docket: 0800239.0129 (old)  
SMDZ P106 (new)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Date of Deposit: October 29, 2003

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Typed or printed name of person mailing:

Deborah Neill

Signature of person mailing

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "C"**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action in the above-referenced application in which a Request for Continued Examiner (RCE) was earlier submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1,114, please amend the application as follows:

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